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## APPENDIX A

### LOOMIS STATE FOREST CHRONOLOGY

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*The following Loomis State Forest Chronology helps illustrate the complex relationships in the forest where economic, historical, biological and social issues have all come together.*

#### 1889

- I Washington becomes a state; receives 3 million acres of “original grant lands” from federal government. Washington keeps most of its grant lands to generate income from the construction of state’s schools, prisons, institutions and Capitol buildings.

#### 1900-1920s

- I Wildfire sweeps through large blocks of the Loomis, part of a natural wildfire, grow-back life cycle of this forest.
- I Lodgepole pine naturally seeds and grows in the 4,000 to 6,000 foot elevations, creating large blocks of same-aged, same-species trees in remote areas inaccessible by road.

#### 1925

- I The Loomis State Forest, west of Tonasket, in eastern Washington’s Okanogan County, resulted from federal land grant and lieu land selections.

#### 1957

- I State Legislature creates Department of Natural Resources to consolidate the state’s land management and resource protection into one agency.
- I Board of Natural Resources created to set policy direction for state trust lands on behalf of the trust beneficiaries and the public.

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### **1960s-1970s**

- I Department of Natural Resources emphasis is placed on generating income for trust beneficiaries through timber harvest.
- I The state Legislature creates the Resource Management Cost Account (RMCA) to actively reinvest some revenue from state lands into making the long-term investments needed to keep trust lands productive.

### **1970s**

- I Harvest of marketable timber begins in Loomis (lodgepole is not economically feasible to sell).

### **1980s**

- I Bark beetle infestations begin to appear in stands of lodgepole in nearby Ferry County and Canadian Okanogan.

### **1984-85**

- I Loomis lodgepole reaches harvest maturity, but little or no market exists for the trees. A harvest of the trees is not economically sound for trust.

### **1987**

- I Bark beetle infestation begins in Loomis State Forest.

### **1989**

- I Loomis beetle infestation reaches lodgepole in scattered pockets on 5,000 acres. A few small lodgepole sales are auctioned by Department of Natural Resources.

### **1990**

- I Emergency statewide closure of Canadian lynx trapping and hunting season by Washington Wildlife Commission.

### **Early 1990s**

- I Supply of timber on federal lands becomes restricted. Mill owners demand shifts from federal to state and private lands.

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- I Increased timber harvesting in Loomis brings increased review and legal challenges from groups concerned about dwindling lynx habitat and environmental issues.
  - I First Loomis State Forest public advisory process begins; disintegrates due to disagreement among interest groups.

#### 1991

- I The first Loomis Forest Advisory Committee (twelve-member) appointed by Department of Natural Resources to review each Loomis timber sale.

#### 1992

- I Lodgepole pine becomes valuable to timber purchasers and mills as other supplies dry up. Mill price at this time increases.

#### 1993

- I Commissioner of Public Lands Jennifer Belcher takes office.
- I Commissioner appoints second Loomis State Forest citizen advisory committee (13-members). Committee participates in a public process to recommend goals and objectives for ecosystem-based trust management of the forest.
- I Department of Natural Resources facilitates “focus group” meetings to gather information from groups interested in the Loomis.
- I First successful lodgepole timber sale in Loomis since 1989.
- I Lynx listed as threatened by the Washington Wildlife Commission.
- I Annual survey shows beetle infestation in Loomis rose dramatically, affecting pockets of 90+ year old lodgepole on thousands of acres.
- I Public meetings gather citizen comment on Loomis State Forest in Tonasket, Spokane, Seattle and Olympia.

#### 1994

- I Citizen advisory committee completes Loomis State Forest goals and objectives.
- I Public meetings gather comment on *Loomis State Forest Planning Process: Recommended Goals and Objectives* formed by citizen advisory committee.

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- I Department of Natural Resources begins to develop strategy on how to meet the goals and objectives developed by the citizen advisory committee.
  - I Open house to share information and gather additional public comment for Loomis State Forest Landscape Plan.
  - I Department of Natural Resources uses citizen advisory committee goals and objectives and public comment to develop the Loomis State Forest Landscape Plan to be presented to the public in the fall of 1995.
  - I Since 1980, Department of Natural Resources has managed 98 timber sales in the Loomis, generating revenues of \$21.4 million for public school construction projects.

### **1995**

- I Department of Natural Resources completes development of SNAP computer modeling for use in eastern Washington.
- I Okanogan County and Quillayute Valley School District file lawsuit.

### **1996**

- I Department of Natural Resources completes draft Loomis State Forest Landscape Management Plan, which incorporates lynx management plan. A 30-day public review and comment period follows.
- I Loomis State Forest Landscape Management Plan presented to the Board of Natural Resources for review.
- I Board of Natural Resources is expected to act on Loomis State Forest Landscape Management Plan.